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REPORT
OF THE
FOURTH GENERAL MEETING
OF
THE SYDENHAM SOCIETY,

HELD AT
THE SOCIETY'S ROOMS,

On Thursday, May 1st, 1843.

J. A. PARIS, M.D., F.R.S., PRESIDENT OF THE SOCIETY,

IN THE CHAIR.

WITH THE
LAWS OF THE SOCIETY, LIST OF OFFICERS,
&c. &c.

LONDON:
C. AND J. ADLARD, BARTHOLOMEW CLOSE.

THE SYDENHAM SOCIETY.

THE Fourth Anniversary Meeting of the SYDENHAM SOCIETY, convened by public advertisement, was held at the Society's Rooms, 45, Frith Street, Soho, on Friday, the 1st of May, 1846, at eight o'clock in the evening, when DR. PARIS, the President of the Society, took the chair. The following was presented by the Council as their

REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDING MARCH 25th, 1846.

It is now three years since the SYDENHAM SOCIETY was established, and each year has afforded increasing evidence of prosperity and success.

The edition of the first year's books, comprising Hecker's Epidemics, Louis on Phthisis, and Sydenham's Works in Latin, consisted of 1750 copies. These works, owing to the large increase of Members, it has been found necessary to reprint, and above 400 copies have been subscribed for.

Of each of the works issued for the second year, viz. Paulus Ægineta, Vol. I, Observations on Aneurism, and Simon's Chemistry, Vol. I, 2250 copies were printed. And although there were not more than 1800 members, at the time when it was necessary for the Council to determine how many of these works should be printed, so great has been the demand that the whole edition is exhausted, and for some time past the Council have been unable to supply the numerous applicants for the second year's books.

Since the last annual meeting, the following works have been issued: For the second year, the first volume of Simon's Chemistry. For the third year, the second volume of Simon's Chemistry, Hasse's Pathology, and the second volume of Paulus Ægineta. Of the works issued for the first year's subscriptions, Hecker's Epidemics is the only one the reprint of which has been completed; but the others are in the press, and Louis on Phthisis will be soon ready for delivery.

Animal Chemistry is, in the present day, attracting so much attention, and is felt to be of so much importance to the advancement of medical science, that the Council were convinced a good standard work on this subject would be very generally acceptable to the members. Simon's Treatise having gained for its author an European reputation, the Council gladly availed themselves of the offer of Dr. Day to edit for the Society a translation of that important work.

Professor Hasse's System of Pathological Anatomy was early brought under the consideration of the Council, and in their first Report was announced as one of the books which were in preparation. The value of this work will, it is hoped, be acknowledged by the members, and will justify its selection.

Having already stated the views by which they were actuated, in determining on the issue of Mr. Adams's edition of *Paulus Aegineta*, it is unnecessary for the Council to make farther mention of this work, of which the second volume has now been issued.

In addition to these three volumes, which are now in the hands of the members, the Council hope to be able to give a fourth for the past year.

It has been to the Council a source of considerable disappointment and regret that the books were not delivered earlier in the year. They believed that their arrangements had been such as would have ensured the issue of at least one book during the autumn of last year. Although, in most instances, the delivery of the books has been effected with more expedition and regularity during the past year than on former occasions, the Council have still to apologize for some errors and irregularities, which, however, they feel assured it will be admitted to be very difficult in all instances to avoid, when it is considered how much care and accuracy are required to keep correct lists of between 2000 and 3000 names, and how numerous are the changes in the residences of members, and in the directions they give for the transmission of their books.

In the last Report it was stated that arrangements had been commenced for an edition of the collected works of Dr. W. Hunter, which had been frequently urged on the attention of the Council. It has, however, been found undesirable to proceed with these arrangements. The practice of the Council has been, before determining finally on the publication of any work, to refer it to a sub-committee, who, after fully investigating and considering all subjects relating to the work in question, report to the Council. The sub-committee to whom the works of Dr. W. Hunter were referred, assigned, in their report, reasons which satisfied the Council that it was inexpedient for them to proceed further with this object.

The plan for a complete Medical Bibliography, which was appended to the last Report, appears to have been very generally approved of by the members. To this subject the Council have devoted much attention; and are now in correspondence with several distinguished continental scholars, with a view to ascertain what assistance they are likely to obtain in collecting the materials for so great a work. At present, however, the plans of the Council are not sufficiently matured to enable them to give more definite information on this part of their proceedings than was afforded in the last Report.

It was the intention of the Council that the edition of Harvey's works should have been issued during the past year; but the engagements of the editor have prevented him from completing his labours so soon as he anticipated. The printing of this volume is now, however, so nearly completed, that there can be no doubt it will be shortly in the hands of the members. The edition of Hewson's works is also in the press, and will be ready for delivery in the course of the present year.

The attention of the Council having been frequently called to many valuable essays and papers in the Transactions of British Medical Societies, a sub-committee was appointed to examine the Transactions of all such Societies of a date anterior to the present century. It has been ascertained that many papers exist of sufficient interest and importance to deserve republication. The Council have determined to issue a

volume composed of papers on Obstetrical subjects; and are happy to state that Professor Simpson, of Edinburgh, has consented to assist them in selecting the papers, and to edit them for the Society.

The Theses and Prizes of the French Academy of Surgery have also been examined, and a number of essays on diseases of the head and neck selected, as especially deserving of notice. These, it is proposed, shall be collected in one volume, the translation and editing of which have been confided to Mr. Drewry Ottley.

Among numerous other works to which the attention of the Council has been directed, and on the consideration of which much time has been bestowed, are the following:—The works of Hippocrates; various treatises on Epidemic Catarrh; the Medical Psychology of Dr. Feuchtersleben; an Index to the British Periodical Medical Literature; several treatises on Medical Ethics.

The Council have, as on former occasions, gratefully to acknowledge the kind assistance and the numerous suggestions which have been afforded them by many of the members in different parts of the country; and also especially to thank those gentlemen who have continued to act as Hon. Local Secretaries, and through whose exertions the Society has been made more generally known. There is, however, reason to believe that it is still unknown to many members of the profession, who would gladly join it were they acquainted with its nature and objects. Thirty additional Local Secretaries have been appointed since the last Report; and in almost every instance it has been found that these appointments have been followed by an increase in the number of members.

In accordance with Rule XI, the Council have nominated Dr. BABINGTON as their Treasurer, and Dr. BENNETT as their Secretary.

It has been the anxious wish of the Council to carry out the important objects of the Society to the utmost; and that their fellow members should derive from it all the benefits which it was designed to confer. For this purpose neither time nor labour has been spared. With what measure of success the efforts of the Council have been attended may best be judged of by the character of the works which have been already issued. It has, however, afforded them much pleasure to find that their efforts to serve their brethren have been acknowledged in the same spirit as they have been rendered.

The Treasurer then presented the following as the Financial Report for the past year.

STATEMENT of RECEIPTS and EXPENDITURE of the SYDENHAM SOCIETY,
From the 25th March, 1845, to the 25th March, 1846.

RECEIVED.

	£	s.	d.
Balance brought forward	911	19	0
From 230 Subscribers for 1845-6	219	12	0
From 2105 Ditto for 1845-6	2214	13	0
From 329 Ditto for Reprint of First Year's Books	314	18	6
Interest allowed by Union Bank to 31st Dec. 1845	23	14	8
Dividend on £195 8s. 2d., 3 per Cent. Consols	5	13	10
	£	3753	11 0

Examined and found correct,
 April 22d, 1846.

W. D. CROWE, }
 HENRY POWELL, } Auditors,
 THOMAS MARTIN, }

EXPENDED.

	£	s.	d.
Petty Cash, Advertisements, Stationery, Postage, &c.	27	17	11
Local Secretaries' Expenses of Collection	12	11	7
Editorial Expenses	131	5	0
Book-binding	108	11	9
Paper	356	12	8
Printing and Engraving	519	18	8
Rent, Clerk and Collector's Salaries, and Office Expenses, and delivery of Books	221	4	8
Returned and transferred Subscriptions	6	6	0
Union Bank: Commission on Notes	0	2	0
The Secretary, by vote of last General Meeting	157	10	0
Secretary's Salary, three quarters of a year	118	2	6
Legal Expenses	16	11	10
Balance	2076	16	5
	£	3753	11 0

Examined and found correct,
 April 22d, 1846.

W. D. CROWE, }
 HENRY POWELL, } Auditors,
 THOMAS MARTIN, }

Further REPORT of the TREASURER.

	£	s.	d.
To Balance in the Treasurer's hands, as per			
Accounts above audited	2076	16	5
Received since the 25th of March	53	16	0

It was then Resolved unanimously, "That the Report of the Council for the past year be adopted and printed."

The thanks of the Meeting were voted to the several officers of the past year; and a ballot having taken place for President, Vice-Presidents, and Council, for the ensuing year, the following gentlemen were declared to have been duly elected.

OFFICERS FOR 1846-7.

President.

J. A. PARIS, M.D. F.R.S., President of the Royal College of Physicians.

Vice-Presidents.

W. P. ALISON, M.D. F.R.S.E. Professor of Medicine in the University of Edinburgh.

SIR BENJAMIN C. BRODIE, Bart. F.R.S., Sergeant-Surgeon to the Queen.

SIR WILLIAM BURNETT, M.D. F.R.S. K.C.H., Inspector-General of Fleets and Hospitals.

W. F. CHAMBERS, M.D. F.R.S. K.C.H., Physician to the Queen and to the Queen Dowager.

SIR JAMES CLARK, Bart. M.D. F.R.S., Physician to the Queen and to the Prince Albert.

SIR PHILIP CRAMPTON, Bart. F.R.S., Surgeon-General to the Forces in Ireland.

SIR ALEXANDER CRICHTON, M.D., F.R.S.

JOHN GREEN CROSSE, Esq., F.R.S.

JOSHUA HENRY DAVIDSON, M.D., First Physician to the Queen for Scotland.

JOHN DAVY, M.D. F.R.S., Inspector-General of Hospitals, L.R.

CHARLES HASTINGS, M.D.

JOHN KIDD, M.D. F.R.S., Regius Professor of Medicine in the University of Oxford.

P. M. LATHAM, M.D., Physician Extraordinary to the Queen.

ROBERT LISTON, Esq., F.R.S.

SIR HENRY MARSH, Bart.

SIR JAMES M'GRIGOR, Bart. M.D. F.R.S.L. and Ed., Director-General of the Medical Department of the Army.

Council.

HENRY ANCELL, Esq.

W. R. BASHAM, M.D.

W. D. CHOWNE, M.D.

JOHN CLENDINNING, M.D., F.R.S.

BRANSEY COOPER, Esq.

JAMES COPLAND, M.D., F.R.S.

JOHN ERICHSEN, Esq.

JOHN FORBES, M.D., F.R.S.

ARTHUR FARRE, M.D., F.R.S.

EDWARD HEADLAND, Esq.

JOHN HILTON, Esq. F.R.S.

THOMAS HODGEIN, M.D.

SAMUEL LANE, Esq.

JAMES LUKE, Esq.

JONATHAN PEREIRA, M.D., F.R.S.

BENJAMIN PHILLIPS, Esq., F.R.S.

G. O. REES, M.D., F.R.S.

WILLIAM SHARPEY, M.D. F.R.S.

SAMUEL SOLLY, Esq. F.R.S.

GEORGE JAMES SQUIBB, Esq.

THEOPHILUS THOMPSON, M.D., F.R.S.

ERASMUS WILSON, Esq., F.R.S.

JAMES ARTHUR WILSON, M.D.

Treasurer.

BENJAMIN GUY BABINGTON, M.D. F.R.S., 31, George Street, Hanover Square.

Secretary.

JAMES RISDON BENNETT, M.D., 24, Finsbury Place.

Clerk.

Mr. W. PAMPLIN, 45, Frith Street, Soho.

Collector.

Mr. CALVERLEY, 10, Noel Street, Wardour Street, Soho.

Don. Local Secretaries, appointed by the Council.

Aberdeen ...	Dr. Jos. Williamson,	Leicester ...	Dr. John Barclay.
Albany, U. S.	Dr. F. Romeyn Beck.	Limerick ...	Dr. Griffin.
St. Andrews ...	Dr. John Reid.	Lincoln ...	J. Hainworth, Esq.
Aylesbury ...	R. Ceely, Esq.	Liverpool ...	Dr. Vose.
Bath ...	R. F. George, Esq.	Lowestoff ...	W.C. Worthington, Esq.
Beccles ...	W. E. Crowfoot, Esq.	Maidstone ...	Dr. Geo. Taylor.
Bedford ...	T. H. Barker, Esq.	Malton ...	Dr. J. J. Wright.
Belfast ...	Dr. Saunders.	Manchester ...	H. Reid, Esq.
Birmingham ...	Dr. Bell Fletcher.	Marlborough ...	D. P. Maurice, Esq.
Blackburn ...	Dr. Rich. Martland.	Montrose ...	Dr. M'Gavin.
Blandford ...	Edward Spooner, Esq.	Newcastle-on-	} Dr. Glover.
Bolton le Moors	Henry Sharp, Esq.	Tyne ...	
Bradford (Yorks.)	R. H. Meade, Esq.	Newcastle-un-	} Dr. Wilson.
Brighton ...	Dr. George S. Jenks.	der-Line ...	
Bristol ...	J.G.Swayne, Esq. M.B.	New York, U.S.	Dr. Lee.
Berwick-on-Tweed	Dr. Johnston.	Northampton ...	J. M. C. Faircloth, Esq.
Bury St. Edmunds	Charles C. Smith, Esq.	Norwich ...	D. Dalrymple, Esq.
Cambridge ...	Dr. Wm. H. Fisher.	Nottingham ...	Dr. Hutchinson.
Canterbury ...	Dr. Edw. Scudamore.	Oxford ...	Dr. Greenhill.
Cheltenham ...	Dr. Colledge.	Paisley ...	Dr. M'Kechnie.
Chester ...	H. M'Ewen, Esq.	Penzance ...	Dr. Willan.
Chichester ...	Dr. Tyacke.	Philadelphia,	} Dr. R. Dunglison.
Colchester ...	Dr. Williams.	U. S. ...	
Coleraine, Ireland	Dr. Thos. H. Babington.	Plymouth ...	Jos. Wells, Esq.
Congleton ...	John Hall, Esq.	Pontefract ...	Dr. Oxley.
Cork ...	Dr. Popham.	Preston ...	Robert Brown, Esq.
Coventry ...	N. Troughton, Esq.	Reading ...	T. L. Walford, Esq.
Derby ...	Douglas Fox, Esq.	Reigate ...	Thomas Martin, Esq.
Devizes ...	Dr. Seagram.	Retford ...	Dr. J. C. Hall.
Doncaster ...	Dr. Scholfield.	Rochdale ...	R. Bower, Esq.
Dover ...	Dr. E. Astley.	Rothsay ...	Dr. MacLachlan.
Dublin ...	Dr. Law.	Ryde ...	M. Phené, Esq.
Dumfries ...	Dr. W. A. F. Browne.	Scarborough ...	Dr. Dunn.
Dundee ...	Dr. Munro.	Settle ...	Thos. D. Burrows, Esq.
Durham ...	E. C. Jepson, Esq.	Sheffield ...	Dr. Branson.
Edinburgh ...	Dr. Spittal.	Shrewsbury ...	Samuel Wood, Esq.
Exeter ...	Dr. Pennell.	Southampton ...	J. K. Sampson, Esq.
Fairford ...	J. Hitchman, M.D.	Stirling ...	W. H. Forrest, Esq.
Glasgow ...	Dr. Fleming.	Stockton-on-Tees	Dr. Keenlyside.
Gloucester ...	Dr. Hitch.	Stowmarket ...	C. R. Bree, Esq.
Greenock ...	Dr. John Speirs.	Stroud ...	Dr. Gooch.
Guernsey ...	Jos. Ozanne, Esq.	Sunderland ...	Dr. Brown.
Halifax ...	Dr. Garlick.	Taunton ...	Dr. Kinglake.
Harrowgate ...	Dr. Kennion.	Tunbridge Wells	Dr. Henry Powell.
Hastings ...	D. Mackness.	Torquay ...	Dr. Madden.
Hatfield ...	T. L. Thomas, Esq.	Truro ...	Dr. J. M. Winn.
Hereford ...	Fran. Braithwaite, Esq.	Wakefield ...	G. F. Naylor, Esq.
Hertford ...	Dr. Davies.	Warrington ...	G. W. Hardy, Esq.
Huddersfield ...	— Atkinson, Esq.	Warwick ...	H. Blenkinsopp, Esq.
Hull ...	Dr. H. Cooper.	Wells, Norfolk	Jas. Young, Esq.
Huntingdon ...	Michael Foster, Esq.	Winchester ...	Dr. A. D. White.
Inverness ...	Dr. Wilson.	Windsor ...	Dr. Maitland.
Ipswich ...	Dr. Durrant.	Wolverhampton	Edw. F. Dehane, Esq.
Douglas I. of Man	H. R. Oswald, Esq.	Woolwich ...	W. Denne, Esq.
Ridderminster ...	Dr. W. Roden.	Worcester ...	Dr. Streeten.
Kilmarnock ...	Alexander Hood, Esq.	Yarmouth ...	R. Worship, Esq.
Lancaster ...	T. Howitt, Esq.	York ...	Dr. Laycock.
Leeds ...	T. P. Teale, Esq.		

LAWS OF THE SYDENHAM SOCIETY.

I. The Society is instituted for the purpose of meeting certain acknowledged deficiencies in existing means for diffusing medical literature, which are not likely to be supplied by the efforts of individuals, and shall be called the "SYDENHAM SOCIETY."

II. The Society will carry its objects into effect by a succession of publications, embracing, among others,—1, Reprints of standard English works, which are rare or expensive; 2, Miscellaneous Selections from the ancient and from the earlier modern authors, reprinted or translated; 3, Digests of the works of old and voluminous authors, British and Foreign, with occasional biographical and bibliographical notices; 4, Translations of the Greek and Latin medical authors, and of works in the Arabic and other Eastern tongues, accompanied, when it is thought desirable, by the original text; 5, Translations of recent foreign works of merit; 6, Original works of merit which might prove valuable as books of reference, but which would not otherwise be published, from the slender chance of their meeting with a remunerating sale—such as Bibliographies, alphabetical and digested Indexes to voluminous periodical publications, &c.

III. The Society shall consist of an unlimited number of members.

IV. The subscription constituting a member shall be One Guinea; to be paid in advance on the 25th day of March, annually; for which he shall be entitled to a copy of every work published by the Society for the year for which he subscribes. Any Subscriber who shall not have paid his subscription previous to the last day in July of the current year, shall not be allowed the privileges of that year's subscription except on the payment of a fine of Five shillings; nor shall any one be allowed to join the Society for the current year after that period except on payment of a similar fine.

V. The Officers of the Society shall be elected from the Members; and shall consist of a President, sixteen Vice-Presidents, Treasurer and Secretary, and a Council of twenty-four, in whom the power of framing bye-laws, and directing the affairs of the Society shall be vested.

VI. The President, Vice-Presidents, and Council shall be elected annually by the Members attending at the general anniversary meeting of the Society; and the election shall be by ballot. Balloting lists of Members proposed by the Council, with blank spaces for such alterations as any Member may wish to make, shall be laid on the Society's table for the use of the Members.

VII. The President and Vice-Presidents shall be eligible for re-election, except that of the Vice-Presidents four shall retire every second year, the retirements having been determined by the Council.

VIII. Six of the Council of the preceding year shall be ineligible for re-election, the retirements to be determined by the Council previous to the annual Meeting.

IX. The election of Members of Council shall be by ballot, and shall take place annually by the Members attending the anniversary meeting, and in the manner prescribed for the election of Vice-Presidents.

X. The Council shall immediately fill up vacancies occurring in their numbers, in consequence of the death or retirement of Members at periods antecedent to the annual meeting.

XI. The Council shall annually nominate a Secretary and Treasurer, subject to the approval of the general meeting, who shall *ex officio* be members of the Council.

XII. The Council shall also appoint Local Honorary Secretaries wherever they shall see fit.

XIII. The business of the President shall be to preside at the annual and extraordinary meetings of the Society; in his absence, one of the Vice-Presidents or the Treasurer, or any member of the Council, chosen by the members present, shall take the chair.

XIV. The Treasurer, or some person or persons appointed by him, shall receive all money due or payable to the Society.

XV. The money in the hands of the Treasurer, which shall not be immediately required for the uses of the Society, shall be vested in government, or such other speedily available securities as shall be approved of and directed by the Council.

XVI. The Council shall select the works to be published by the Society, and shall make all arrangements, pecuniary and otherwise, in regard to editing, translating, preparing works for the press, printing, &c. But in the event of any Member of the Council being appointed to edit any work for the Society, for which he is to receive pecuniary remuneration, he shall immediately cease to be a member of the Council, and shall not be re-eligible till after the publication of the work.

XVII. The Council shall lay before the Members, at each anniversary meeting, a report of their proceedings during the past year, and also an account of the receipts and expenditure of the Society; and shall further cause to be printed and circulated among the Members an abstract of such report and accounts immediately after each anniversary meeting.

XVIII. The annual accounts of the receipts and expenditure of the Society shall be audited by a committee of three Members, selected at the preceding anniversary meeting from among the Members at large.

XIX. The Secretary shall have the management of the general correspondence of the Society, and of such other business as may arise in carrying out its objects.

XX. The Local Secretaries shall be in communication with the Metropolitan Secretary, and aid in their several districts in furthering the objects of the Society.

XXI. Members shall have the privilege of proposing works for publication, and shall address their propositions to the Council.

XXII. The Society shall hold its anniversary meeting on the 1st of May, or on the next lawful day thereafter, at such time and place as the Council may agree upon, notice of the said anniversary meeting having been given to Members at least one week previously to the day fixed upon.

XXIII. No Member shall be entitled to receive the Society's publications unless his annual subscription shall have been duly paid.

XXIV. The works of the Society shall be handsomely printed, on an uniform plan, for members only.

XXV. It shall not be competent for book-clubs to subscribe to the Society as members; but it shall be permitted to societies and institutions having *permanent* libraries to subscribe to the Society in the name of their President, Secretary, or Librarian, or other responsible officer.

XXVI. No alteration of the laws of the Society shall be made, except at a general meeting; nor then, unless notice of the alteration intended to be proposed at such meeting shall have been laid before the Council at least one month previously.

XXVII. The Council shall have power to call a General Meeting of the Members at any time; and shall also do so within three weeks, upon receiving a requisition in writing to that effect from not less than twenty Members of the Society.

REGULATIONS FOR THE DELIVERY OF BOOKS.

I. They will be delivered, free of expense, at the Office of the Society, 45, Frith-street, Soho, or within three miles of the General Post Office, London.

II. They will be sent to any place in England, beyond the distance of three miles from the General Post Office, by any conveyance a Member may point out. In this case the parcels will be booked at the expense of the Society, but the carriage must be paid by the Member to whom they are sent.

III. They will be delivered, free of expense, at any place in London which a Member resident in the country may name.

IV. They may remain at the Office until the Members apply for them; but in that case the Society will not be responsible for any damage that may happen from fire or other accident.

V. They will be sent to any of the Hon. Local Secretaries of the Society, each Member paying the Local Secretary a due share of the carriage of the parcel in which the books are sent.

VI. Any number of country members may unite, to have their books sent in one parcel, to any address they may name. In this case they are requested to depute one of their number to transmit to the Secretary for London a list of the names of those whose books are to be included in the same parcel.

VII. They will be delivered in Edinburgh and Dublin, as in London, and forwarded from thence to Members in other parts of Scotland and Ireland, in the same way as is mentioned above with respect to England.

VIII. Those Members who wish their books to be included in any of the parcels to Local Secretaries, are requested to send in their names (with their Christian names in full) and particular address to the various Local Secretaries, who are respectfully requested to forward to the Secretary for London an accurate list of all such names with as little delay as possible.

IX. Unless intimation to the contrary be given to the Secretary for London, the future deliveries will be made in accordance with the delivery of the first volume.

As the number of copies of works printed by the Society will be regulated by the number of the Members, gentlemen intending to subscribe for the current year will see the propriety of giving in their names without delay. Those who are desirous of becoming Members are requested to transmit their names in full, with their address, to the Secretary, or to any of the Local Secretaries. A few copies of the works issued for the Members for the past year are still on hand, and may be had by new Members.

The Subscriptions for the current year, which are now due, may be paid either personally to the Treasurer, the Metropolitan Secretary, or any of the Local Secretaries; or by a Post-office order made payable at the chief office, London, to the Treasurer or the Secretary; or by an order on any London banker.

45, Frith Street, Soho, London;
May 1846.

